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Title: Need to expedite approval of 'The Gujarat Control to Organized Crime Bill, 2003', pending assent of the President of India - Laid.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD): The Gujarat State Legislature has passed The Gujarat Control of Organized Crime Bill, 2003" and the same has been forwarded to H.E. the President of India by H.E. the Governor of Gujarat on 01.04.2003. The Ministry of Home Affairs vide their letter dated 24.12.2003 had recommended deletion of certain clauses namely 14 and 16. The amended bill has been passed by the State Legislative Assembly on 2-6-2004 and the same has been forwarded for the assent of H.E. the President of India on 19.06.2004. The State Government is awaiting the assent of H.E. the President of India. The Gujarat Control of Organized Crime Bill 2003 is based on a similar Act passed by Government of Maharashtra, its neighbouring State. After Maharashtra Police was able to take action against some of the organized group of criminals, some of them have shifted to Gujarat. Unless and until we have statutory authority to deal with such criminals in the same manner, as is possible for the Government of Maharashtra, the security situation in the State would remain under constant threat. Gujarat being the border State has all the more reasons to worry about the organized crime. Since the amended bill is in accordance with the principles laid down by Hon'ble High Court of Bombay. Sir, I humbly request the Government of India to pursue the bill which is pending with H.E. the president of India for his assent.